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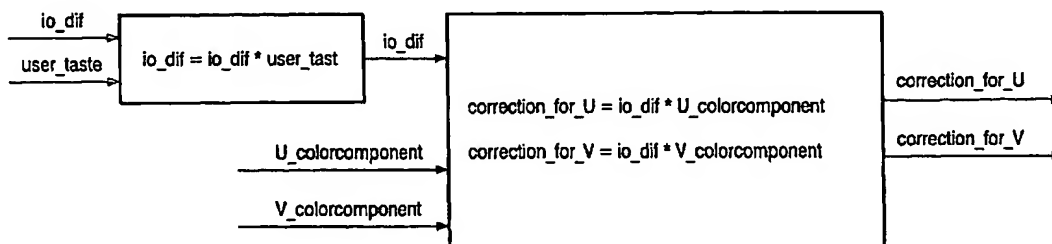
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- Published:**
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- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: IMAGE PROCESSING



(57) Abstract: In almost all contemporary TVs peaking techniques are used today to enhance the picture. This means that the edges are sharpened in the luminance channel by using of peaking or peaking-like circuits such as, for instance, luminance transient improvement techniques. By such technique black parts near the edge are usually pushed towards more black color and white parts are pushed towards more white color. As a result the picture appears sharper and crisper. However, the picture also gives a "hard" impression in said parts, the reason for this being that the image signal has been corrected solely with regard to a luminance component and not with regard to a color component. The proposed method aims to increase the saturation level at those parts, in particular by processing the input image signal in a region of an edge location, wherein at least the image characteristics of a color component are corrected by amplifying the color component. Advantageously, the correction of the color component is processed as a function of an original local saturation level, an original local luminance level or a local difference between an original and a peaked image signal. The object of such measures is restricted not only to improving the sharpness of an image but also to improving an overall impression of an image, in particular near edge locations.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H04N9/64

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H04N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

PAJ, WPI Data, EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 418 574 A (MIYABATA YOSHIYUKI ET AL) 23 May 1995 (1995-05-23) column 2, line 25 - line 57 column 4, line 60 - column 6, line 11; figure 1	1,2,4,8, 9
A	EP 0 543 351 A (SANYO ELECTRIC CO) 26 May 1993 (1993-05-26) abstract column 5, line 55 - column 8, line 42; figure 4	1,2,4,8, 9
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 03, 29 March 1996 (1996-03-29) & JP 07 298288 A (VICTOR CO OF JAPAN LTD), 10 November 1995 (1995-11-10) abstract	1,4,8,9



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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